AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing precursor solution of bismuth molybdenum hexanoate said process comprising: dissolving molybdenum trioxide in oxalic acid solution, the said solution being concentrated to give a blue coloured solution, adding 2-ethyl hexanoic acid to said blue coloured solution, heating the resulting mixed solution to a temperature in the range of 100 to 150°C for a period in the range of 30 to 60 minutes to remove water, said water free solution being maintained at a temperature in the range of 150 to 250°C for a period in the range of 30[[mm]] to 90 minutes to obtain a hot brown coloured solution, adding bismuth trioxide slowly to the said brown coloured hot solution under reflux thereby getting bismuth molybdenum hexanoate precursor solution.

21. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the purity of 2 ethyl hexanoic acid may be at least reagent grade.

22. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the oxalic acid solution is prepared in water.

23. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein molybdenum trioxide is added in small quantities to oxalic acid solution maintained at a temperature of 80 to 120°C to effect complete dissolution of molybdenum trioxide.

24. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the purity of molybdenum trioxide may be at least reagent grade.

25. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the purity of bismuth trioxide may be at least regent grade.

26. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein bismuth hexanoate solution may be mixed to molybdenum hexanoate solution in a ratio such as 2:2 to 2:3.

27. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the water used may be such as distilled water, deionised water.

28. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the precursor solution may have stability of at least three months.

29. (Previously Presented) A process for preparation of a sensitive, fast response thin film ethanol sensor said process comprises dissolving molybdenum trioxide in oxalic acid solution, the said solution being concentrated to give a blue colored solution, adding 2-ethyl hexanoic acid to said blue colored solution, heating the resulting mixed solution to a temperature in the range of 100 to150°C for a period in the range of 30-60

minutes to remove water, the said water free solution being maintained at a temperature in the range of 150 to 200°C for a period in the range of 30-90 minutes to obtain a hot brown colored solution, adding bismuth trioxide slowly to the said brown colored hot solution under reflux, thereby obtaining bismuth molybdenum precursor solution, depositing a thin film of the said precursor solution on a substrate at a temperature in the range of 200 to 400°C, cooling the deposited film, depositing electrode contacts on the said thin film ethanol sensor.